

Notic of Allowability

Application No.

10/066,649

Examiner

Christopher M. Kalivoda

Applicant(s)

FUJITUGU, HIDEKI

Art Unit

2881

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment received October 2, 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 February 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. <u>1203</u> |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No. _____ | 7 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The following two changes were made to the claims:

In claim 1, line 8, the first word "an" was changed to "a".

In claim 1, line 13 (last line), the text "by which a transition is effected" was changed to "that substantially unifies light".

Mr. David Safran verbally approved these changes on December 16, 2003.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The Applicant filed an amendment received on October 2, 2003. In this amendment, Applicant amended the claims and specification. No new matter was introduced.

Regarding the specification, the proposed change is approved and the previous objection to the specification is withdrawn.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 2, the Applicant's arguments are persuasive and all previous claim rejections are withdrawn. Regarding independent claim 1, a review of prior art failed to disclose or make obvious a substrate treatment device comprising at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps wherein a length for the at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps in the lengthwise direction is less than a length of the transport direction of the substrate.

Claims 3 and 5 are allowed by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1.

Regarding independent claim 2, a review of prior art failed to disclose or make obvious a substrate treatment device comprising at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps, wherein the length of the dielectric barrier lamps in a lengthwise direction is less than a length in the direction perpendicular to the transport direction of the substrate.

Claims 4 and 6 are allowed by virtue of their dependence upon claim 2.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U.S. Patent 5,763,892 to Kizaki et al. and U.S. Patent 5,510,158 to Hiramoto et al. both describe substrate treatment devices comprising at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps and moving the substrate in relation to the lamps. These references also teach a first area of the substrate irradiated with one lamp and a second area of the substrate irradiated with another lamp and the areas overlap. However, the references are silent with respect to at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps wherein a length for the at least two dielectric barrier discharge lamps in the lengthwise direction is less than a length of the transport direction of the substrate or less than a length in the direction perpendicular to the transport direction of the substrate.

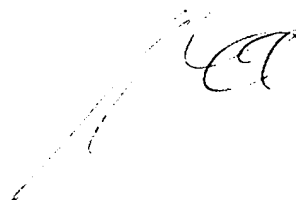
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher M. Kalivoda whose telephone number is (703)-305-7443. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (8:30 - 5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Lee can be reached on (703)-308-4116. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703)-872-9306.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-308-0956.

cmk
December 16, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "cmk", written diagonally across the page.